

Fill in this information to identify your case:

United States Bankruptcy Court for the:

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

Case number (if known) Chapter 11

☐ Check if this an amended filing

Official Form 201

Voluntary Petition for Non-Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy

04/20

If more space is needed, attach a separate sheet to this form. On the top of any additional pages, write the debtor's name and the case number (if known). For more information, a separate document, *Instructions for Bankruptcy Forms for Non-Individuals*, is available.

1. Debtor's name Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc

2. All other names debtor used in the last 8 years

Include any assumed names, trade names and doing business as names

3. Debtor's federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-1963304

4. Debtor's address Principal place of business Mailing address, if different from principal place of business

605M Country Club Dr.  
Bensenville, IL 60106

Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code

P.O. Box, Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code

DuPage

County

Location of principal assets, if different from principal place of business

Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code

5. Debtor's website (URL)

6. Type of debtor

☒ Corporation (including Limited Liability Company (LLC) and Limited Liability Partnership (LLP))

☐ Partnership (excluding LLP)

☐ Other. Specify:

Debtor **Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc**  
Name

Case number (if known)

**7. Describe debtor's business**

A. Check one:

- ☐ Health Care Business (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(27A))
- ☐ Single Asset Real Estate (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51B))
- ☐ Railroad (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(44))
- ☐ Stockbroker (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(53A))
- ☐ Commodity Broker (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(6))
- ☐ Clearing Bank (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 781(3))
- ☒ None of the above

B. Check all that apply

- ☐ Tax-exempt entity (as described in 26 U.S.C. § 501)
- ☐ Investment company, including hedge fund or pooled investment vehicle (as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 80a-3)
- ☐ Investment advisor (as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 80b-2(a)(11))

C. NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) 4-digit code that best describes debtor.  
See <http://www.uscourts.gov/four-digit-national-association-naics-codes>.

**8. Under which chapter of the Bankruptcy Code is the debtor filing?**

Check one:

- ☐ Chapter 7
- ☐ Chapter 9

☒ Chapter 11. Check **all** that apply:

A debtor who is a "small business debtor" must check the first sub-box. A debtor as defined in § 1182(1) who elects to proceed under subchapter V of chapter 11 (whether or not the debtor is a "small business debtor") must check the second sub-box.

- ☒ The debtor is a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D), and its aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are less than \$2,725,625. If this sub-box is selected, attach the most recent balance sheet, statement of operations, cash-flow statement, and federal income tax return or if any of these documents do not exist, follow the procedure in 11 U.S.C. § 1116(1)(B).
- ☒ The debtor is a debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 1182(1), its aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are less than \$7,500,000, **and it chooses to proceed under Subchapter V of Chapter 11**. If this sub-box is selected, attach the most recent balance sheet, statement of operations, cash-flow statement, and federal income tax return, or if any of these documents do not exist, follow the procedure in 11 U.S.C. § 1116(1)(B).
- ☐ A plan is being filed with this petition.
- ☐ Acceptances of the plan were solicited prepetition from one or more classes of creditors, in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 1126(b).
- ☐ The debtor is required to file periodic reports (for example, 10K and 10Q) with the Securities and Exchange Commission according to § 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. File the *Attachment to Voluntary Petition for Non-Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy under Chapter 11* (Official Form 201A) with this form.
- ☐ The debtor is a shell company as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Rule 12b-2.

☐ Chapter 12

**9. Were prior bankruptcy cases filed by or against the debtor within the last 8 years?**

- ☒ No.
- ☐ Yes.

If more than 2 cases, attach a separate list.

District	_____	When	_____	Case number	_____
District	_____	When	_____	Case number	_____

Debtor **Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc** Case number (if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name

10. Are any bankruptcy cases pending or being filed by a business partner or an affiliate of the debtor? ☐ No ☒ Yes.

List all cases. If more than 1, attach a separate list

Debtor	Relationship	Wholly owned subsidiary
<b>Frieght-Base Services, Inc.</b>		
<b>Northern District of Illinois -- Eastern Division</b>		
District	When	Case number, if known
	<b>6/01/21</b>	<b>21-06990</b>

11. Why is the case filed in this district? Check all that apply:
- ☒ Debtor has had its domicile, principal place of business, or principal assets in this district for 180 days immediately preceding the date of this petition or for a longer part of such 180 days than in any other district.
- ☐ A bankruptcy case concerning debtor's affiliate, general partner, or partnership is pending in this district.

12. Does the debtor own or have possession of any real property or personal property that needs immediate attention? ☒ No ☐ Yes.
- Answer below for each property that needs immediate attention. Attach additional sheets if needed.
- Why does the property need immediate attention? (Check all that apply.)**
- ☐ It poses or is alleged to pose a threat of imminent and identifiable hazard to public health or safety.  
What is the hazard? \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ It needs to be physically secured or protected from the weather.
- ☐ It includes perishable goods or assets that could quickly deteriorate or lose value without attention (for example, livestock, seasonal goods, meat, dairy, produce, or securities-related assets or other options).
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Where is the property?** \_\_\_\_\_  
Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code
- Is the property insured?**
- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. Insurance agency \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Statistical and administrative information

13. Debtor's estimation of available funds Check one:
- ☒ Funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors.
- ☐ After any administrative expenses are paid, no funds will be available to unsecured creditors.

14. Estimated number of creditors
- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-49 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1,000-5,000   | <input type="checkbox"/> 25,001-50,000     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99           | <input type="checkbox"/> 5001-10,000   | <input type="checkbox"/> 50,001-100,000    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 100-199         | <input type="checkbox"/> 10,001-25,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 100,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 200-999         |  |  |

15. Estimated Assets
- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$0 - \$50,000                   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,001 - \$10 million    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000,001 - \$1 billion     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,001 - \$100,000             | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000,001 - \$50 million   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,000,001 - \$10 billion  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 - \$500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000,001 - \$100 million  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000,000,001 - \$50 billion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001 - \$1 million          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000,001 - \$500 million | <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$50 billion          |

Debtor **Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc** Case number (if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name

**16. Estimated liabilities**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$0 - \$50,000                   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,001 - \$10 million    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000,001 - \$1 billion     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,001 - \$100,000             | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000,001 - \$50 million   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,000,001 - \$10 billion  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$100,001 - \$500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000,001 - \$100 million  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000,000,001 - \$50 billion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001 - \$1 million          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000,001 - \$500 million | <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$50 billion          |

Debtor **Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc** Case number (if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name

**Request for Relief, Declaration, and Signatures**

**WARNING** -- Bankruptcy fraud is a serious crime. Making a false statement in connection with a bankruptcy case can result in fines up to \$500,000 or imprisonment for up to 20 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 1341, 1519, and 3571.

**17. Declaration and signature  
of authorized  
representative of debtor**

The debtor requests relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.

I have examined the information in this petition and have a reasonable belief that the information is true and correct.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on **June 1, 2021**  
MM / DD / YYYY

**X /s/ Jack Groat**  
Signature of authorized representative of debtor  
  
Title **President**

**Jack Groat**  
Printed name

**18. Signature of attorney**

**X /s/ Timothy M. Hughes**  
Signature of attorney for debtor

Date **June 1, 2021**  
MM / DD / YYYY

**Timothy M. Hughes 6208982**  
Printed name

**Lavelle Law, Ltd.**  
Firm name

**1933 N. Meacham Road  
Suite 600  
Schaumburg, IL 60173**  
Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code

Contact phone **847.705-9698** Email address **thughes@lavellelaw.com**

**6208982 IL**  
Bar number and State

**Fill in this information to identify the case:**

Debtor name **Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc**  
 United States Bankruptcy Court for the: **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**  
 Case number (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check if this is an amended filing

## Official Form 204

### Chapter 11 or Chapter 9 Cases: List of Creditors Who Have the 20 Largest Unsecured Claims and Are Not Insiders

12/15

A list of creditors holding the 20 largest unsecured claims must be filed in a Chapter 11 or Chapter 9 case. Include claims which the debtor disputes. Do not include claims by any person or entity who is an insider, as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(31). Also, do not include claims by secured creditors, unless the unsecured claim resulting from inadequate collateral value places the creditor among the holders of the 20 largest unsecured claims.

Name of creditor and complete mailing address, including zip code	Name, telephone number and email address of creditor contact	Nature of claim (for example, trade debts, bank loans, professional services, and government contracts)	Indicate if claim is contingent, unliquidated, or disputed	Amount of claim If the claim is fully unsecured, fill in only unsecured claim amount. If claim is partially secured, fill in total claim amount and deduction for value of collateral or setoff to calculate unsecured claim.		
				Total claim, if partially secured	Deduction for value of collateral or setoff	Unsecured claim
AJ Equity Group LLC 13101 W. Washington Blvd Venice, CA 90066		Loan				\$59,700.00
Blade Funding 211 Boulevard of the America Lakewood, NJ 08701		Loan				\$31,610.00
CFG 180 Maiden Lane, Floor 15 New York, NY 10038		Loan				\$41,272.00
Daka		Loan				\$42,390.00
I.O.U. 600 Town Park Lane #100 Kennesaw, GA 30144		Loan				\$13,847.00
Jack Groat 605-M Country Club Bensenville, IL 60106		Wages, salaries, or commissions (up to \$13,650*) earned within 180 days before the bankruptcy petition is filed. 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(4).				\$13,650.00
Merchant Capital c/o INCORP SERVICES INC 901 S 2ND STREET SUITE 201 Springfield, IL 62704		Loan				\$82,729.00

Debtor **Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc**  
Name

Case number (if known)

Name of creditor and complete mailing address, including zip code	Name, telephone number and email address of creditor contact	Nature of claim (for example, trade debts, bank loans, professional services,	Indicate if claim is contingent, unliquidated, or disputed	Amount of claim If the claim is fully unsecured, fill in only unsecured claim amount. If claim is partially secured, fill in total claim amount and deduction for value of collateral or setoff to calculate unsecured claim.		
				Total claim, if partially secured	Deduction for value of collateral or setoff	Unsecured claim
Spark Funding, LLC d/b/a Fundamental Capital 100 Garden City Plaxe #410 Garden City, NY 11530		Loan				\$57,863.60
Zip 2902 N 29th Ave. Hollywood, FL 33020		Loan				\$70,919.00

AJ Equity Group LLC  
13101 W. Washington Blvd  
Venice, CA 90066

Blade Funding  
211 Boulevard of the America  
Lakewood, NJ 08701

CFG  
180 Maiden Lane, Floor 15  
New York, NY 10038

Daka

I.O.U.  
600 Town Park Lane #100  
Kennesaw, GA 30144

Illinois Department of Revenue  
P.O. Box 19035  
Springfield, IL 62794-9035

Illinois Dept of Employment Securit  
P.O. Box 3637  
Springfield, IL 62708-3637

Internal Revenue Service  
Centralized Insolvency Ooperations  
P.O.Box 7346  
Philadelphia, PA 19101-7346

Jack Groat  
605-M Country Club  
Bensenville, IL 60106

Merchant Capital  
c/o INCORP SERVICES INC  
901 S 2ND STREET SUITE 201  
Springfield, IL 62704

Spark Funding, LLC  
d/b/a Fundamental Capital  
100 Garden City Plaxe #410  
Garden City, NY 11530



Zip  
2902 N 29th Ave.  
Hollywood, FL 33020

**United States Bankruptcy Court  
Northern District of Illinois**

In re **Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc**

Debtor(s)

Case No.

Chapter

**11**

**CORPORATE OWNERSHIP STATEMENT (RULE 7007.1)**

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7007.1 and to enable the Judges to evaluate possible disqualification or recusal, the undersigned counsel for **Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc** in the above captioned action, certifies that the following is a (are) corporation(s), other than the debtor or a governmental unit, that directly or indirectly own(s) 10% or more of any class of the corporation's(s') equity interests, or states that there are no entities to report under FRBP 7007.1:

**Jack Groat**  
**605-M Country Club**  
**Bensenville, IL 60106**

☐ None [*Check if applicable*]

**June 1, 2021**

Date

**/s/ Timothy M. Hughes**

**Timothy M. Hughes 6208982**

Signature of Attorney or Litigant

Counsel for **Freight-Base Customs Brokers, Inc**

**Lavelle Law, Ltd.**

**1933 N. Meacham Road**

**Suite 600**

**Schaumburg, IL 60173**

**847.705-9698 Fax:847.705-9960**

**thughes@lavellelaw.com**